

05760342 041604

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for providing access to the logic units of a first computer system at a second computer system, wherein one or more of the logic units of the first system are externally invocable, and wherein the second system issues searches for invocable logic units and 5 commands to invoke logic units that may be captured externally, the method comprising:

capturing a search for invocable logic units issued from the second system;

returning a list of one or more externally invocable logic units of the first system as a result for the captured search;

capturing a command to invoke a logic unit issued from the second system; and 10 if the logic unit identified in the captured command is a listed logic unit, causing the first system to invoke the identified logic unit, receiving the results of the invocation of the identified logic unit from the first system, and returning the results to the second system.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the list identifies the externally invocable logic units of the first system that match a search pattern.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein causing the first system to invoke the identified logic unit comprises:

extracting data associated with the identified logic unit from the second system;

providing the extracted data to the first system; and

instructing the first system to invoke the identified logic unit.

20 4. The method of claim 3, wherein providing the extracted data comprises:

converting the extracted data from a format associated with the second system to a format associated with the first system; and

passing the converted data to the first system.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein converting the extracted data comprises:
converting the extracted data from a format associated with the second system to a
third format; and

converting the extracted data from the third format to the format associated with

5 the first system.

6. A method for providing access to the logic units of a first computer system
at a second computer system using a third computer system, wherein one or more of the logic
units of the first system are externally invocable, and wherein the second system issues searches
for invocable logic units and commands to invoke logic units that may be captured externally,
10 the method comprising:

capturing, at the third system, a search for invocable logic units issued from the
second system;

returning, from the third system to the second system, a list of one or more
externally invocable logic units of the first system as a result for the captured search;

15 capturing, at the third system, a command to invoke a logic unit issued from the
second system; and

if the logic unit identified in the captured command is a listed logic unit, causing,
from the third system, the first system to invoke the identified logic unit, receiving, at the third
system, the results of the invocation of the identified logic unit from the first system, and

20 returning the results to the second system from the third system.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising associating the third system
with the second system, prior to the capture of the search, so as to enable the third system to

capture searches for invocable logic units and commands to invoke logic units issued from the second system.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the second system uses hooks to enable the external capture of searches for invocable logic units and commands to invoke logic units, 5 and wherein associating the third system with the second system comprises registering the third system as a client of the hooks.

9. A method for providing access to the logic units of a first computer system at a second computer system, wherein one or more of the logic units of the first system are externally invocable, and wherein the second system issues searches for invocable logic units and 10 commands to invoke logic units that may be captured externally, the method comprising:

receiving a list of one or more externally invocable logic units of the first system; capturing a command to invoke a logic unit issued from the second system; and if the logic unit identified in the captured command is a listed logic unit, causing the first system to invoke the identified logic unit.

15 10. A method for providing access to the logic units of a first computer system at a second computer system, wherein one or more of the logic units of the first system are externally invocable, and wherein the second system issues searches for invocable logic units and commands to invoke logic units that may be captured externally, the method comprising:

20 capturing a search for invocable logic units issued from the second system; and returning a list of one or more externally invocable logic units of the first system as a result for the captured search.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising presenting the list to a user.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the list was previously provided by an administrator.

13. A system for providing access to the logic units of a first computer system at a second computer system, wherein one or more of the logic units of the first system are 5 externally invocable, and wherein the second system issues searches for invocable logic units and commands to invoke logic units that may be captured externally, the system comprising:

means for capturing a search for invocable logic units issued from the second system;

means for returning a list of one or more externally invocable logic units of the 10 first system as a result for the captured search;

means for capturing a command to invoke a logic unit issued from the second system; and

means for, if the logic unit identified in the captured command is a listed logic unit, causing the first system to invoke the identified logic unit, receiving the results of the 15 invocation of the identified logic unit from the first system, and returning the results to the second system.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein means for causing the first system to invoke the identified logic unit comprises:

means for extracting data associated with the identified logic unit from the second 20 system;

means for providing the extracted data to the first system; and

means for instructing the first system to invoke the identified logic unit.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein means for providing the extracted data comprises:

means for converting the extracted data from a format associated with the second system to a format associated with the first system; and

5 means for passing the converted data to the first system.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein means for converting the extracted data comprises:

means for converting the extracted data from a format associated with the second system to a third format; and

10 means for converting the extracted data from the third format to the format associated with the first system.

17. The system of claim 13, wherein the list is created by an administration tool using information received from a user, the information comprising information associated with the first system, information associated with the second system, and information associated with the logic units of the first system for which access is to be provided at the second system.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the information associated with the logic units comprises a search pattern that the administration tool uses to extract from the first system the identities of each logic unit for which access is to be provided at the second system.

19. A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium 20 having computer readable code embodied therein, the computer readable code, when executed, causing a computer to implement a method for providing access to the logic units of a first computer system at a second computer system, wherein one or more of the logic units of the first system are externally invocable, and wherein the second system issues searches for invocable

logic units and commands to invoke logic units that may be captured externally, the computer program product including:

- computer readable program code configured to cause a computer to capture a search for invocable logic units issued from the second system;
- 5 computer readable program code configured to cause a computer to return a list of one or more externally invocable logic units of the first system as a result for the captured search;
- computer readable program code configured to cause a computer to capture a command to invoke a logic unit issued from the second system; and
- 10 computer readable program code configured to cause a computer to, if the logic unit identified in the captured command is a listed logic unit, cause the first system to invoke the identified logic unit, receive the results of the invocation of the identified logic unit from the first system, and return the results to the second system.